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UBJECT

Stansfield Turner Discusses U.S.-Soviet Relations

RALPH WENGE: As we told you earlier, Moscow announced-today the execution of a man convicted of spying for the United States. The man, Adolf Dacholshov (?), was a leading aviation design expert in the Soviet Union and he was accused of giving advanced Soviet avionics and electronic countermeasures to the CIA.

With us now in our Washington Bureau is Ambassador [sic] Stansfield Turner, who was formerly with the CIA.

Welcome, Mr. Turner.

First of all, were you surprised at the announcement of the execution?

ADMIRAL STANSFIELD TURNER: No, not particularly. They've done this before. I doubt that the man was executed right now. They released this information now because they wanted the timing to affect the whole scene of tit-for-tat on exchanges of diplomats and spies.

WENGE: But it also seemed that following the Iceland Summit, Mr. Gorbachev, at the very least, and the Soviet Union, was trying to warm things up a little bit to try and get talks going again, perhaps in Geneva.

ADMIRAL TURNER: I don't understand the Administration's move in expelling 55 more Soviet diplomats at this particular time. It seems to me it's a wrong move on a couple of scores.

One, it is going to put a damper on the negotiations that could have some fruitful outcome as a result of Reykjavik.